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Letter dated 11 September 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a letter from Abdoulaye Diop, Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and International Cooperation of Mali, addressed to Albert Gerard Koenders, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) (see annex).

As requested by the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations, I would be grateful if you could bring the attached letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

Following the working meeting held on 23 August 2014, I wish to draw your attention to the matters below, which require urgent action.

Since the events of May 2014, armed movements and groups, including the Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad (MNLA), have occupied certain towns in the regions of Timbuktu and Gao, in particular Ménaka, Djebok, Ber and Lemeb, taking the civilian populations hostage, depriving them of basic services and in some cases imposing levies on them.

This situation is unacceptable for the Government of Mali and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolutions and statements. In that connection, I invite you to take appropriate action pursuant to resolution 2164 (2014).

The ministers in charge of defence and security will contact you with a view to agreeing on the urgent measures to be taken to protect and secure civilians in the occupied localities.

Last, it is important to make clear to the armed movements and groups that they must refrain from causing a further escalation of violence on the eve of the second stage of the Algiers process.

I reaffirm my commitment to cooperate on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.

(*Signed*) Abdoulaye **Diop**